2 March 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Staff, Area, Division and Branch
                 Chiefs

SUBJECT   :   The Vietnam Crisis

    The DCI, DDCI, and DDI have all variously
expressed their concern that CIA make a maximum
effort to support the national policy-makers during
this critical period in Southeast Asia. Attached
to this memorandum are some specific instructions
issued by the DDI. I request each of you within
his own area of responsibility to do everything
possible to carry this out.

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R. J. SMITH
Assistant Director
Current Intelligence

VIETNAM ACTION CHECKLIST

I. Reporting and Analysis Targets

    A. Possibility of a concerted effort to cut off the northern provinces of South Vietnam by the Viet Cong, the DRV, and/or Communist China.

    B. Possibility of actions inimical to U.S. interests by South Vietnamese leaders, particularly General Thi.

    C. Approaches concerning negotiations on South Vietnam. There is high level interest in negative reporting on this subject as well.

    D. Possibility of Communist build-ups in other areas, such as Taiwan Strait, North Korea, Berlin.

II. Internal Organization

    A. Intelligence information [ ] is to be readily available to those who need it, and compartmentation (both within DDI and between DDI and DDP) broken down to the extent necessary to assure that all concerned have access to all available information.

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III. Requirements

    A. Analysts and requirements officers are to review current requirements to make certain that they are pointed at our specific needs of the moment.

IV. Assumptions and Estimates

    A. ONE is to review all its recent estimates on Vietnam and initiate any changes considered necessary.

    B. OCI is to review its production on the area and update as necessary.

V. General

    A. All individuals and units concerned with the area are to review what we have done and are doing and satisfy themselves that we are in the best possible posture for meeting the Agency's responsibiliteis in the present critical period.